

HOT TOPIC – EPA and Montana DEQ recent public outreach regarding Columbia Falls Aluminum site.

Montana DEQ held a public meeting in Columbia Falls, Montana on December 18th to discuss the recent negotiations with Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC) to complete a Remedial Investigation at the site. MDEQ outlined the negotiation process and discussed its recent unsuccessful outcome. EPA's Site Assessment unit attended the meeting and discussed the CFAC site analytical data and the CERCLA Remedial Program. EPA believes this site is eligible for the NPL. Prior to the meeting, EPA and DEQ met with staff from Sen Tester's and Sen Walsh's Kalispell office and the Columbia Falls City Manager. EPA has also been in contact with staff with Rep Daines' Missoula office. Attendees of the individual meetings and public meeting expressed their support for additional investigation at the site using EPA CERCLA authorities. At this time, EPA Site Assessment will continue to build public support and create the necessary documentation to propose the site to the NPL.

Contact: Rob Parker 312-6664, Victor Ketellapper 312-6578